



## State Board of Education Request for Freeway School Accreditation

Name of Requesting School:	John Paul the Great Catholic High School
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Board Date:	December 1, 2010	Grade Span:	9-12
Education Director:	Elizabeth Flatt	Public or Private:	Private
Location Address:	218 W 13th St., Jasper, IN	Enrollment:	15
City/Town:	Jasper, Indiana	Targeted Student Population:	Students seeking a small, private faith-based high school.

### Indiana Department of Education Office of School Accreditation

The following executive summary has been compiled by the Office of School Accreditation for use by the Indiana State Board of Education. It includes information presented by the school during the accreditation process, potential legal standard issues, and any other information collected during the process that may impact accreditation.

#### Summary of Materials Presented to the Board:

**Identity:** John Paul the Great Catholic High School is a regional, multicultural, bilingual Catholic school, loyal to the teachings of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Evansville. They are committed to form tomorrow's leaders physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually. John Paul the Great Catholic High School opened in the fall of the 2009-2010 school year. The addition of a senior class is planned for the 2011-2012 school year.

**Attendance:** The student body is a highly motivated, with personal attention is given to each student. At this time, attendance has not been an issue.

**Graduation:** N/A. Currently no John Paul the Great Catholic High School students are classified as seniors. The first graduating class will be in place starting in the 2011-12 school year.

**Benchmarks:** John Paul the Great Catholic High School seeks to ensure quality education measured by:

- PSAT Results.
- End of Course Assessments results.
- SAT and/or ACT test results.
- Admission to student's college of choice will be monitored.
- Graduation rate.
- Meeting or exceeding the state attendance rate.

**Staffing:** Every staff member currently holds a valid Indiana teaching license. The principal holds an administrative license, with the exception the staff member who teaches theology.

**Waiver Requests:**

511 IAC 6.1-5-5: Textbook Adoption

A committee, including the principal, is formed when choosing a textbook to carefully analyze and evaluate materials to be sure Indiana Academic Standards are met. The ability and opportunity to integrate the faith aspect into the course is also reviewed.

511 IAC 6.1-6.1

While the school currently employs all licensed teachers except for theology courses John Paul the Great Catholic High School asks for the flexibility to occasionally hire teachers who we feel are competent in their subject area, have a desire and passion to work with high school aged children, and are committed to the faith-based learning approach to teach outside their area of certification. This decision would be based on their academic background, experience, training, and abilities

**Issues:** School enrollment is small, but academic resources are not lacking. They are positioned to provide the students with very personal attention and provide students a full opportunity to earn an academic honors diploma.

**Recommendations:** It is recommended that John Paul the Great Catholic High School be granted Freeway Accreditation for a full five year period.

**Rationale:**

In discussions with the staff, it is clear that there is a commitment to continue to develop John Paul the Great Catholic High School into a vibrant alternative education opportunity for the community. The administrator is of high quality, the instructors are all part-time, experienced educators and the local Catholic community is supportive to see it grow and succeed.